-- The optical interference pattern 14 formed on the outer surface of light transmissive substrate 12 can take various conventional forms including diffraction patterns such as diffraction gratings, refraction patterns, holographic patterns such as two-dimensional and three-dimensional holographic images, corner cube reflectors, Kinegram® devices (*i.e.*, holograms with changing imagery as the angle of view is changed), Pixelgram® devices (*i.e.*, a hologram with multiple holographic pixels arranged in a spatial orientation that generates one holographic image), zero order diffraction patterns, moiré patterns, or other light interference patterns based on microstructures having dimensions in the range from about 0.1 μm to about 10 μm, preferably about 0.1 μm to about 1 μm, and various combinations of the above such as hologram/grating images, or other like interference patterns. --

A1

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Suitable embodiments of the flake structure are disclosed in a copending application Serial Number 09/198,733, filed on November 24, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,157,489 and entitled "Color Shifting Thin Film Pigments," which is incorporated herein by reference. Other suitable embodiments of color shifting or optically variable flakes which can be used in paints or inks for application in the present invention are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,135,812, 5,171,363, 5,278,590, 5,084,351, and 4,838,648, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference herein. --

A2

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In an additional embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figure 13, a security article 140 includes elements similar to those discussed above with respect to security article 130, including a light transmissive substrate 12 formed with an optical interference pattern 14, and a color shifting optical coating 146 that is laminated to substrate 12 by way of an adhesive layer 62. The optical coating 146 includes an absorber layer 18, a dielectric layer 20, and a reflector layer 22 as described above, with optical coating 146 being deposited on a carrier sheet 64 to form a prelaminate structure prior to being laminated to substrate 12. The prelaminate structure is subjected to a laser imaging process such as described above for security article 130 in order to form both a laser ablated image 118 as well as a laser scribed number 122. In addition, a covert resistive layer 148 is formed on substrate 12 over interference pattern 14. The covert resistive layer 148 is composed of a transparent conductive material such as indium tin oxide (ITO), indium oxide, cadmium tin oxide, combinations thereof, and the like, and provides enhanced features to security article 140 such as a defined electrical resistance. Such covert resistive layers are described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/094,005, filed June 9, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,031,457, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. The covert resistive layer can be applied to other embodiments of the invention if desired. --

A3

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- It should be understood that the above embodiments depicted in Figures 10-13 could alternatively be laminated obversely such that the embossed surface with a high index transparent dielectric layer is adjacent to the laminating adhesive and optical coating. For example, Figure 14 depicts a security article 150 which includes essentially the same elements as security article 130, including a light transmissive substrate 12 with an optical interference pattern 14, and a color shifting optical coating 156 that is laminated to substrate 12 by way of an adhesive layer 62. The optical coating 156 includes an absorber layer 18, a dielectric layer 20, and a reflector layer 22. The optical coating 156 is deposited on a carrier sheet 64 to form a prelaminate structure prior to being laminated to substrate 12. The prelaminate structure is subjected to a laser imaging process to form both a laser ablated image 118 as well as a laser scribed number 122. As shown in Figure 14, the optical coating 156 is laminated to substrate 12 so as to be adjacent to optical interference pattern 14 such as a holographic or diffractive pattern. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 47-48, 54-64, and 78 without prejudice.

Please amend the following claims:

3. (Once Amended) The security article of claim 2, wherein the plastic material is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polycarbonate, polyvinyl chloride, polyacrylates, polyacrylonitrile, polystyrene, polypropylene, cellulose diacetate, cellulose triacetate, polydicyclopentadiene, and mixtures or copolymers thereof.